

Message Text

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10

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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R 041405Z MAR 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2381

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0144

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MZ

SUBJECT: VICTOR LOUIS VISIT IN MOZAMBIQUE

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 110

1. THUS FAR COMPLETE BLACKOUT ON LOCAL NEWS ABOUT VICTOR LOUIS VISIT. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND FROM SEVERAL RELIABLE SOURCES THAT WHATEVER ORIGINAL INTENTION MAY HAVE BEEN IN INVITING LOUIS, LOCAL AUTHORITIES BLEW THEIR CHANCE OF IMPRESSING HIM.

2. VISIT, WHICH WAS IMPOSED FROM LISBON, PROBABLY BY FOREIGN OFFICE, TURNED OUT TO BE PURELY TOURIST AFFAIR CONTROLLED BY CIT (CENTER FOR INFORMATION AND TOURISM). RECOMMENDATION OF SCCIM (MILITARY INTELLIGENCE) THAT LOUIS SHOULD BE SHOWN ZONES OF ACTION, ALDEAMENTOS, ETC. WAS IGNORED, AND BOTH SCCIM AND DGS (SECURITY POLICE) WERE PREVENTED FROM PARTICIPATING IN VISIT. LOUIS WAS TAKEN TO BEIRA, GORONGOSA PARK, PARADISE ISLAND, AND MOCAMBIQUE ISLAND. HE SPENT THREE DAYS IN LOURENCO MARQUES (GETTING FRENCH VISA DURING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT TIME).

3. REPORTEDLY LOUIS WAS UNHAPPY WITH TREATMENT HE RECEIVED AND REFUSED ANY CONTACT WITH OFFICIALS. AS SOON AS HE ARRIVED IN BEIRA, HE APPARENTLY ASKED WHEN THE NEXT PLANE FOR VIENNA, AUSTRIA WOULD LEAVE, AND WHEN TOLD THAT AIR CONNECTIONS WITH THAT COUNTRY WERE RATHER COMPLICATED, GRUDGINGLY ACCEPTED VISIT TO MOCAMBIQUE ISLAND INSTEAD.

4. FEELING HIS VISIT SERVED VERY LITTLE PURPOSE SO FAR AS PORTUGUESE ARE CONCERNED, BUT LOCAL OFFICIALS REALIZE LOUIS HAS DEEP AND MYSTERIOUS CONNECTIONS AND DOUBT HE WOULD HAVE CONSENTED TO COME IN THE FIRST PLACE UNLESS SOVIET UNION HAD SOME INTEREST IN CATCHING GLIMPSE OF THINGS AS THEY ACTUALLY ARE IN MOZAMBIQUE.
VAN OSS

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